

METRO-EAST REGIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS AUTHORITY

NOVEMBER 10, 2011 MINUTES

The Chairperson, Emil Wilson called to order the November 10, 2011 meeting at 7:10 p.m. This meeting was held at Illinois Department of Transportation, Collinsville.

PRESENT

Dr. Marguerite Riley, Member
Margaret Merrell, Member
Carol Neudecker, Member
Thomas Cannady, Member

STAFF PRESENT

Michael J. Pintar

ABSENT

Emil Wilson, Chairperson
Sandy Burbank, Member
Kingston Schmid, Vice-Chairperson
David Bollone, Member
Karen Kelly, Member

GUESTS

Mike Lowry, Director
Georgia, Associate Director
Trinity Services Southwest Operations

INTRODUCTIONS

In the absence of the Chair and Vice-Chairperson Member Cannady recognized that a quorum was not present and the visitors stated that they would not stay for the meeting unless the HRA needed more information. The Coordinator explained that the HRA would review a report of findings and if the members present and at least one more member approves the report and after administrative approval it would be issued within ten days of the meeting. The Trinity representatives agreed that they would not stay for the meeting.

The Coordinator read the confidentiality statement that indicates that personally identifiable information should not be presented in public meetings in order to protect the privacy of those disabled persons on whose behalf the HRA conducts investigations.

Member Cannady confirmed that some actions from the meeting would require approval of a quorum. Member Cannady asked for changes in the agenda. There were none.

MINUTES

The members reviewed the stated minutes of the September 13, 2011 HRA meeting and considered them for approval. Members agreed to approve the minutes based on a motion by Thomas Cannady, seconded by Carol Neudecker and considering ratification will take place next month.

COMMUNICATIONS: The Coordinator noted that Sandy Burbank resigned her HRA position due to a new work schedule and Beverly Sweatman has agreed to return to the Authority pending approval by the Director.

Members present agreed to continue the current set of officers, Emil Wilson Chairperson, Kingston Schmid, Vice-Chairperson and Marguerite Riley, Secretary.

NEW BUSINESS:

12-070-9008 - a staff called a patient an asshole and other staff witnessed. The consumer asked to call OIG and instead security came to question him. The OIG did not come to question the consumer until the complaint was reported to the HRA, who called OIG and after that, OIG showed up but did not interview the perpetrator. Later staff took away his bracelet in what seemed to be retaliation for reporting the allegation. Upon a motion by Marguerite Riley seconded by Carol Neudecker, members present agreed to investigate.

12-070-9009 - a consumer is super sensitive to pain all over his body the Physician says its all in his head and refuses to offer a ct scan. The consumer stated that just prior to admission, a Physician told him that he needed a ct scan and now the facility will not offer that treatment. Upon a motion by Thomas Cannady, seconded by Margaret Merrell members voted not to investigate the allegation.

12-070-9010 - a consumer has had bronchitis that has not been treated. He stated that several weekends ago, while several female consumers were in his face, the staff refuse to allow him to go to his room to have respite from the unit. Upon a motion by Marguerite Riley, seconded by Thomas Cannady, members present agreed to investigate.

12-070-9011 - the hospital administers benedryl and Zyprexa because she cannot sit still. The consumer claims that she is not a danger to herself or others but staff threatens her with restraint if she does not comply with taking emergency medication. Upon a motion by Thomas Cannady, seconded by Carol Neudecker, members agreed to case opening.

12-070-9012 - a consumer had sex with a staff member and then the hospital reduced his privileges and forced him to take a blood test. Upon a motion by Thomas Cannady, seconded by Carol Neudecker, members agreed to table case opening until receipt of the OIG report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Pursuant to Section 721 of the Illinois Guardianship and Advocacy Act and Section 42 of the Open Meetings Act, upon a motion by Kingston Schmid, seconded by Thomas Cannady, the Authority went into closed session at 7:35 p.m. to discuss case progress and reports of findings.

Case Progress Reports:

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Case progress reports

1. 11-070-9010 - Alton Mental Health Center - privileging (search)

2. 11-070-9016 - Alton Mental Health Center - level & communication
3. 11-070-9017 - Alton Mental Health Center - lost privilege (\$)
4. 11-070-9025 - Call for Help - communication
5. 11-070-9030 - Alton Mental Health Center - makeup
6. 11-070-9033 - Alton Mental Health Center - privileges [tobacco]

B. Reports of Findings:

1. 11-070-9027 - Gateway Medical Center - involuntary admit & medication
2. 12-070-9004 - Trinity Services - safety
3. 12-050-9006 - Epilepsy - safety

C. Case Closures:

1. 11-070-9019 and 11-070-9032 - DRS Department of Human Services - denied services
2. 11-070-9009 - Alton Mental Health Center - restraint
3. 12-070-9001 - Alton Mental Health Center - letter

The HRA returned to open session at 8:15 p.m. upon a motion by Thomas Cannady, seconded by Carol Neudecker.

Upon returning to open session:

B. Reports of findings:

Upon a motion by Marguerite Riley seconded by Carol Neudecker, members agreed to accept the reports with suggested revisions, pending the approval additional members to meet the requirement that a quorum approve the reports.

C. Case Closures:

1. 12-070-9001 - Alton Mental Health Center - upon a motion by Thomas Cannady, seconded by Marguerite Riley members voted for case closure.
2. 11-050-9019 & 9032 - Illinois Department of Human Services - Department of Rehabilitation (combined cases). Upon a motion by Thomas Cannady, seconded by Carol Nuedecker, members voted to table case closure awaiting response from the agency.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMENTS:

The next meeting will be December 15, 2011 at Illinois Department of Transportation

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Dr. Marguerite Riley, Recording Secretary